

R E M A R K S

By this amendment, claim 1 is amended, claims 2, 6 and 8 are canceled, and claim 9 is added so as more clearly to define applicant's invention in view of the art cited by the examiner. The allowance of claim 7 is acknowledged. The examiner's indication that claim 4 is drawn to allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. New claim 9 is a combination of the subject matter of claims 1, 2 and 4 and, therefore, is believed allowable. Any fee for an additional independent claim may be charged to deposit account 18-1837. Reconsideration of claims 1, 3-5, and 9 is requested.

By the office action of November 5, 2004, the examiner rejected independent claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by either Sansone et al. or Wong. In Sansone et al., flaps 2 are only horizontally deformable, whereas applicant's elongated extensions are deformable in any direction with the extensions being respectively spaced. This structure is not shown in Sansone et al. Wong, is cited as showing a flower holder comprising shaft 12a and extensions 12b. Of course, numeral 12a identifies the stems and numeral 12b the roots of plant 12. Clearly, applicant's flower holder, as defined in claim 1, is not anticipated by the flower disclosed in Wong. For these reasons, claim 1 is believed allowable.

Dependent claims 3, 4 and 5 are believed allowable because they define further specific features of applicant's

invention.

From the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3-5, and 9 are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter A. Rodgers', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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